

13. (Amended) A computer system having a configuration subject to change over time, the system comprising:

a first computer having one or more system resources;

a second computer operably connected to the first computer, the second computer associated with one or more installable components;

a configuration file that is readable by the first computer, the configuration file identifying at least one requested component;

an upgrade manager executing on the first computer, the upgrade manager configured to transmit information about the system resources of the first computer to the second computer, the information including indication of components of an operating system that is executing in the first computer; and

an upgrade handler executing on the second computer, the upgrade handler configured to transmit the location of one or more installable components from the second computer to the first computer based upon the at least one requested component and the system resources of the first computer.

19. (Amended) A system for installing one or more components on a client computer, the system including:

a client computer operably connected with the network, the client computer identifying one or more client conditions including operating system components that are executing on the client computer;

a configuration file identifying at least one of the components; and

a component server for receiving the client conditions and the configuration file from the client computer, the component server identifying the location of one or more components based upon the components identified by the configuration file and the client conditions.

20. A system for selecting components for installation on a computer, the system comprising:

means for receiving a request for the upgrade of one or more components;

means for determining one or more system conditions regarding the computer, the system conditions including a type of operating system that is executing on the computer; and

means for identifying one or more components based upon the request and the system conditions.

32. (Amended) A method of selecting components for installation on a computer, the method comprising the acts of:

receiving a request for the upgrade of one or more components; and

identifying one or more components for installation on the computer based upon the request and the system conditions of the computer, the system conditions including a characteristic of an operating system that is executing on the computer.

38. (Amended) A system for selecting components for installing, the system comprising:

a client computer having a processor, a computer-readable storage medium and data communication subsystem; and

an upgrade manager executing on the client computer, wherein the upgrade manager retrieves via the data communication subsystem a configuration file identifying one or more components, wherein the upgrade manager stores the configuration file in the computer-readable storage medium, and wherein the upgrade manager identifies one or more client conditions that are associated with the client computer, the system conditions including features of the operating system that is executing on the computer, and wherein the upgrade manager generates an upgrade request that includes the contents of the configuration file and the client conditions.

39. (Amended) A system for selecting components for installation, the system comprising:

a server computer having a processor, a computer-readable storage medium and data communication subsystem; and

an upgrade handler residing in the computer-readable storage medium and executing on the server computer, the upgrade handler configured to identify the location of one or more components upon receiving via the data communication subsystem one or more system conditions of a client computer, the system conditions including indications about an operating system that is executing on the computer.

41. (Amended) A method of selecting components for installation on a computer, the method comprising:

determining one or more client conditions regarding the computer, the client conditions including one or more operating system components that are executing on the computer;

transmitting a request for the upgrade of one or more components; and